



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNited States DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

een

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,665	01/27/2004	Gottfried Ungerboeck	BP2917	9834
34399	7590	06/13/2007	EXAMINER	
GARLICK HARRISON & MARKISON			GUARINO, RAHEL	
P.O. BOX 160727			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
AUSTIN, TX 78716-0727			2611	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/13/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/765,665	UNGERBOECK, GOTTFRIED
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Rahel Guarino	2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 1-13 and 15-26 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 January 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to **a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words**. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because **the abstract is over 150 words**.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because:
 - a) In **fig 5B**, "**Quarte constellatio**" needs to change to "**Quarter constellation**".
 - b) In **fig 5C**, "**constellatio**" needs to change to "**constellation**".

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version

of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 1-13 and 14-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The recitation of this method is categorized as a process and as such covers/includes the judicial exception of an abstract idea, where the claimed invention is seemingly a patentable process or apparatus, however it is in reality seeking patent protection of a math algorithm.

Although, there is no practical application by physical transformation, the questions arises is there practical application that produces useful and tangible result? The answer is no; the focus is on the result, not the steps or structure used to produce the result. The body of the method as claimed simply recites constellation arrangement in a quarter quadrant of a two-dimensional axis and for this reason does not produce a tangible result.

Conclusion – non statutory; correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. **Claim 1-26 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
5. The term "desired" in **claim 1** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "desired" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.
6. The term "desired" in **claim 14** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "desired" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not

provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

7. The term "**desired**" in **claim 25** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**desired**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

8. The term "**desired**" in **claim 26** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**desired**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

9. **Claim 1,4,5,7,8,14,15,16,25, and 26** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

10. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 1** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

11. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 4** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

12. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 5** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite.

The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

13. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 7** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite.

The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

14. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 8** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite.

The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

15. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 14** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite.

The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.

for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

16. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 15** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.
for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

17. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 16** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.
for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

18. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 25** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.
for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

19. The term "**m-4**" in **claim 26** is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "**m-4**" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably appraised of the scope of the invention.
for $m < 4$, m is invalid.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

20. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forney, Jr. et al. US, 5,150,381.

Re claim 14, Forney discloses a method for mapping m input bits to two-dimensional symbol constellation (col. 4 line 34-39), the method comprising:
forming a quarter-quadrant constellation of $2m-4$ modulation symbols (fig.18; col. 29 line 17-60);
forming a quarter constellation of the two-dimensional symbol constellation by adding to the quarter-quadrant constellation three copies of the quarter-quadrant constellation rotated by -90 degrees, 180 degrees, and -270 degrees (col. 3 line 64 to col. 4 line 5, col. 32 line 45-54), does not specifically teach the quarter constellation by a shift value A such that the symbols coincide with symbols of the desired two-dimensional symbol constellation.

However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that arranging the rotated constellation by a shift would have resulted in preferred constellation points.

forming the two-dimensional symbol constellation by adding to the quarter constellation three copies of the quarter constellation rotated by +90 degrees, 180 degrees, and +270 degrees, respectively (col. 32 line 45-54).

Allowable Subject Matter

21. Claim 1-13, 15-26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rahel Guarino whose telephone number is 571-270-1198. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Payne David can be reached on 571-272-3024. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RG

David Payne
DAVID C. PAYNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER